Berrien County 4-H Spotlight

Upcoming MSU Extension Office Closures

The Berrien County MSU Extension Office will be closed on the following days. Please arrange for any pickup or dop offs prior to these dates.

September 2, 2024



Volume 28 Issue 1
September – October 2024

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CONTACT US

Berrien County MSU
Extension Office
1737 Hillandale Road
Benton Harbor, MI 49022

Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 8:00 a.m. – Noon 1:00 p.m. – 5-:30 p.m.

Phone: 269-927-5674

Fax: 269-944-4128

Email: msue.berrien@county.msu.edu

Website: http://msue.anr.msu.edu/county/ berrien/berrien county 4 h

COUNTY NEWS AND EVENTS



Upcoming Countywide Project Workshops & Kit to Go!

Registration is now open for countywide projects and project exploration kits. Pre-registration is required, and workshops are limited on a first come, first serve basis until full regardless of participation via self-paced or in-person. All supplies are included unless noted during the registration process. Club Leaders may request Kit to Go's for their membership by directly contacting the Berrien County MSU Extension office at 269-927-5674.

Save the Date for these upcoming Countywide Projects:

- Project Area: 4-H Cake Decorating
 - November 16, 2024

There will no Kit to Go! in September as we transition to the new 4-H Program year.

4-H Kit to Go!'s will start back up with a variety of activities in October. So, look for more information to follow soon!

Club Coordinator: Annual Financial Summary Report Forms

This is a friendly reminder that the deadline to submit Annual Financial Report Forms are due *October 1, 2024.* Forms can be mailed to 1737 Hillandale Road, Benton Harbor, MI 49022, dropped off at the after hours drop mailbox out front or faxed to 269-944- 4128.

Forms that need to be submitted include the Annual Financial Report, Civil Rights Statement, Club Profile and Inventory Record. Forms can be found online at: https://www.canr.msu.edu/berrien/berrien_county_4_h/leader-resources/

Failure to comply will result in a club's disbandment.

County Curriculum Order

Taking new projects? Need a Member Record Book? Leveling Up in your project? Need a new project book? Don't waste time, reach out to your local 4-H Project Leader on what resource books you need as we look towards kicking off the new 4-H year!

This year's countywide curriculum order is scheduled to be placed on January 1, 2025. Club Coordinator & Project Leaders can submit their requests for member & leader resources by contacting the Berrien County MSU Extension Office. When requesting, please include Club Name, Resource Name (s), & # needed.

State 4-H Scholarships Available!



Outstanding Michigan 4-H members who are involved at county, regional, state, national or international levels are eligible to apply for Michigan 4-H scholarships to help fund their college experience.

Several scholarship opportunities exist, ranging in value from \$500 to \$2,500.

All applications are due by November 1.





COUNTY NEWS AND EVENTS





SAVE THE DATE!

Mark your calendars for this year's Berrien County 4-H Member & Leader Recognition Celebration!

Date: November 10, 2024

Time: Doors will open at 4:00 PM
Program will start at 4:30 PM
Dinner to follow awards program.

Location: The Rage – 219 N Front St, Niles, MI 49120

Recognition Handbooks, as well as applications, are now available online at: https://www.canr.msu.edu/berrien/berrien_county_4_h/scholarships-awards/awards

Deadline to submit applications and nomination forms is September 22, 2024. No late submissions will be accepted.

4-H Fall Leader Update



The Berrien County 4-H Annual Leader Update Training dates have been set. Don't waste time! Mark those calendars now! Club Coordinators, project, and resource leaders are strongly encouraged to attend. It is important that each 4-H club/group is represented. Volunteers that are working on becoming new club leaders are also welcome. This is a valuable opportunity. Leaders only need to attend one time. Dates are as follows:

- September 16, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. EST—Buchanan Westerners
- September 18, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. EST—Berrien County MSU Extension

RSVPs are to be done through 4-H Online at: https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in or by contacting the Berrien County MSU Extension Office.

New Year Enrollment



4-H Online is now under maintenance. New Year enrollment is set to open on September 15, 2024! Enrollment must be submitted following the deadlines below for eligibility for scholarships, event/activities, etc.

- January 1 Returning Member Re-enrollment deadline
- June 1 New Member deadline

Paper accommodations are available upon request to the Berrien County MSU Extension Office at 269-927-5674 or can be found online at:

https://www.canr.msu.edu/berrien/berrien county 4 h/enrollment

Individuals not enrolled will not be listed on the liability insurance nor considered a 4-H member for the year.





COUNTY NEWS AND EVENTS



Berrien County 4-H Foundation

A message from The Berrien County 4-H Foundation to our 4-H Friends and Families

Do you know that 4-H is the largest youth development organization in Michigan? Thousands of young people explore new interests and discover their passion through 4-H hands-on, experiential learning opportunities in science, healthy living and civic engagement. Perhaps you were one?

In the past year, one out of every 12 youth in Berrien County has participated in a 4-H program. These programs are backed by a community of 4-H volunteers and professionals. The Berrien County 4-H Foundation raises funds for our county 4-H.

This "Giving Tuesday," (or any time really) please help to reach even more youth. Your contribution, no matter what \$ amount, supports the growth of current and future leaders, youth who are confident and strong, curious enough to question and capable enough to find the answers, youth who stick to a job until the job gets done.

<u>It's easy to donate via</u> The Berrien County 4-H Foundation Facebook home page, or if you prefer, by mail to The Berrien County 4-H Foundation, 1737 Hillandale Road, Benton Harbor, MI 49022.

Leaders Council 2024 Elections

The 4-H Leaders Council is currently seeking names of teens and adult leaders who would be interested in serving on the Council. Adult leaders serve a term of 3 years, while teen leaders serve a 2-year term. Leaders Council serves as Board of Directors of the Berrien County 4-H Leaders Association. It also serves as the counsel to the 4-H Program Coordinators. The Council usually meets the fourth Monday of each month at the MSUE Office in Benton Harbor. Each candidate is asked to submit a 100-word bio to be included with the election mailing.

Vacancies to be filled:

- Two (2) Teen Leaders
- Three (3) Adult Leaders

Please send your intention to run as a candidate to Bobbi Lawson at bobbilawson85@gmail.com, Katrina Schneider at galienchanters@gmail.com, or by mail to 1737 Hillandale Rd, Benton Harbor, MI 49022. Submissions are due no later than August 1, 2024.

OTE

4-H Horse Leaders - Elected Officers Results

The Berrien County 4-H Horse Leaders Association held their annual election officers at the August 2024 meeting. Officers were inducted and will transition into their roles starting at the October meeting. Each officer will serve a one-year term. The Berrien County 4-H Horse Leaders Association is open to 4-H Horse and Pony project leaders. Meetings are held on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. EST at the Berrien County Youth Fair – Youth Memorial Building. Take time to congratulate these individuals on their new appointments.

President:

Chrissy Bradford - High Spirits 4-H Club

Secretary:

Jackelyn Truman – Outsiders 4-H Club

Vice President:

Charity Hackett – We Can Ride 4-H Club

Treasurer:

Suzette Hendershott – On the Rail 4-H Club







COUNTYWIDE NEW AND EVENTS



Michigan 4-H State Horse Show Results



Camille Czech of the Tumbleweeds 4-H Club along with her equine partner, Seeking in the Dark, Dexter were selected this year to represent Berrien County 4-H at this year's Michigan State 4-H Horse Show. Camille and Dexter were selected through an application process that is administered each year as each county across the state is only allotted based on project membership to send a specific number of delegates to the Michigan 4-H State Horse Show.



The Michigan 4-H State Horse Show took place on August 16 - 18, 2024 at the Michigan State University Pavilion. This 3-day competition event showcases more than 275 classes of 4-H members and their projects. The State 4-H Horse Show strives to develop leadership, initiative, self-reliance, sportsmanship, and other traits of character. Also, participants learn horsemanship skills and understanding of horse training through evaluating their project progress.

English Equitation Hunt Seat
Grand Champion – Camille Czech –
Tumbleweeds 4-H Club

Western Pleasure – 16- to 19-year-olds 5th in Class – Camille Czech – Tumbleweeds 4-H Club

Senior English Pleasure Hunt Seat Grand Champion – Camille Czech – Tumbleweeds 4-H Club Showmanship – 16- to 19-year-olds 3rd in Class – Camille Czech – Tumbleweeds 4-H Club

4-H Versatility Scholarship Event Results

The Berrien County 4-H program hosted its annual 4-H Versatility Scholarship Event on Sunday, August 11, 2024, at the Berrien County Youth Fair in Berrien Springs, MI. The 4-H Versatility Scholarship event is designed to identify and recognize the most versatile 4-H teen member and horse duo in the Berrien County 4-H Horse and Pony project. An educational scholarship was awarded to the Champion and Reserve Champion in the amounts of \$500.00 and \$250.00, respectively. Placing ribbons are awarded to the top ten placing participants as well. This year's 2024 4-H Versatility Scholarship Event results are as follows:

Grand Champion:
Reserve Grand Champion
3rd Place
4th Place:
5th Place:
Kendra Keobel
6th Place:
Allison Kirk
Samantha Bennett
Elise Schmaltz
Taylor Truman
Kendra Keobel
Lily Morse

Selected by their fellow exhibitors is the Sportsmanship Award. This year's 4-H Versatility Sportsmanship Award goes to Taylor Truman of the Outsiders 4-H Club.













State Youth Leadership Council – Applications Open

Applications to serve on the 2024-2026 Michigan 4-H State Youth Leadership Council are open now until September 1, 2024 at https://forms.gle/TT7Quierj6KZgkwPA.

Established in 2015, the Michigan 4-H State Youth Leadership Council (SYLC) is a statewide leadership opportunity for 4-H youth. SYLC members serve as representatives of the Michigan 4-H program, promoting 4-H through state and local activities, and can provide youth voice and perspective on the development of 4-H programs and curricula.

National 4-H Week

For more than 100 years, 4-H has inspired families, shaped careers, and impacted communities. From October 6-12, we will celebrate the impact of 4-H during National 4-H Week. The theme of this year's National 4-H Week is "Beyond Ready." This theme celebrates how 4-H is building a ready generation in a world of change, equipping youth with skills for the future while meeting them where they are today. As you plan ahead for how you will mark National 4-H Week in your community, here are some ideas of how you can celebrate 4-H!!



- Wear Your 4-H Gear Nothing says 4-H pride like a 4-H tee! Dress yourself (or the entire family pets included!) in 4-H green and clover gear.
- Shout-Out a 4-H'er Recognize the hard work and dedication of 4-H'ers by shouting out one youth or an entire club on social media, in a local newspaper or other media.
- Storefront Displays/Information Booths In some communities, you can ask local businesses to display 4-H posters, flyers, showcase the work of 4-H'ers, or host a table to share information about your local 4-H program
- **Become a 4-H Volunteer** —If you are a 4-H alum, parent or recent 4-H 'graduate', you might be looking for ways to connect with 4-H. Consider giving your time to a local 4-H program by becoming a volunteer.
- Share Your 4-H Story Take to social media to share a 4-H memory, express how 4-H shaped who you are today, describe what 4-H means to you, post an old 4-H photo, or shout-out your 4-H club.
- Have a 4-H Reunion Gather your old 4-H friends and spend some time together reminiscing on your 4-H experience or recreate a 4-H project together!
- **Send a 4-H 'Thank You'** We all have a reason to thank our local 4-H staff, leaders and supporters. To show your appreciation, send a handwritten 'thank you' note to someone who has supported youth and made a difference.
- Raise Awareness On October 9, Michigan 4-H and MSU Extension will be hosting the second Michigan 4-H Day at the Capitol. Join this exciting education and awareness event to help elevate knowledge of Michigan 4-H and share the impact of its programming across Michigan. Learn more online.
- **Give Back** Local programs are always looking for resources to continue growing 4-H for the future. Help programs thrive by <u>making</u> a <u>donation</u> that can help support your county 4-H program.







Provided by Berrien County Farm Bureau and the Berrien County 4-H Clubs

WHAT: The partnering organizations will provide Thanksgiving Dinner ingredients in a basket for needy families. Each basket will be packed with the following ingredients:

- 1 Turkey
- 1 Package of dinner rolls

- 1 Pumpkin Pie
- locally grown apples

We ask each participating 4-H Club to supply the following for each box:

- · 1-3 lb bag of potatoes
- 1- 15 oz. can of sweet potatoes
- 1- 14 oz. can of cranberries sauce
- 1- 6 oz. box of stuffing

- 1 87 oz. packet of dried gravy mix or a jar of
- 1 15 oz. can of green beans
- 1 15 oz. can of corn

COLLECTION: All food items are to be dropped off to the Berrien County MSU Extension Office (1737 Hillandale Road, Benton Harbor, MI 49022) starting on Monday, November 18, 2024 through Friday, November 22, 2024 by Noon. No exceptions! 4-H clubs with more than 3 baskets of food, we encourage to please call ahead at 269-927-5674. No food items should be dropped off to the Berrien County Farm Bureau or Berrien County Youth Fair.

ASSEMBLY: The assembly day will be Saturday, November 23, 2024 at 10 a.m. Assembly is tentatively scheduled at the Berrien County Youth Fair - Youth Memorial Building located at 9122 US Hwy 31, Berrien Springs, MI 49103. Distribution of baskets will be from 10:30 a.m. to Noon.

Each 4-H club will have the opportunity to select the family or families that will receive their box or boxes. There will be a maximum of 150 baskets available. *If your club needs help in identifying a needy family, please contact your local 4-H Program Coordinator. RSVP your intent to participate to Kelly Stelter, 4-H Program Coordinator by Sunday, October 13, 2024 by calling 269.927.5674 ext. 4015; email at grandtke@msu.edu or texting 217-820-5021.

Each 4-H club that participates will be entered in a drawing to receive one of three \$100 cash prizes to be used for your club activities.





Help Berrien County Farmers share the bounty with those in need!





Berrien County 4-H Leaders Association, Inc.

1737 Hillandale Road Benton Harbor, MI 49022-9630 269-927-5674 Phone 269-982-4128 Fax



Berrien County 4-H Mission:

To make a positive difference in the lives of Berrien County youth.

Club Service Project

2024 Leaders Council

Officers

President Katrina Schneider

Vice President Schyler Pellett

Treasurer Shelley Zeiger

Secretary Heather Boyle

Foundation Rep. Melissa Richards

Members:

Roxy Cochran
Karey Sebasty
Bobbi Lawson
Chelsey Sobralski
Kayleigh Lawrick (T)
Lauren Lovell (T)
Jennifer Pellett (T)

Ex-Officio Member 4-H Program Coordinator

Kelly Stelter

Have you ever been to the Berrien County 4-H Centennial Forest? At the Buchanan School Farm on Andrews Road in Buchanan (also behind the middle school) back in 2002, 100 White Pine trees were planted to celebrate 4-H's 100th Birthday!

After 22 years, the trees are looking great! The sign and flowerbed it sits in, however, have seen better days. This is where your club can come in! The Berrien County 4-H Leaders Council will be working on repairing the sign, but we would like clubs to volunteer to help out with the flowerbed.

We are asking members/clubs to create a proposal to show their ideas about what should be done under the sign. The winning proposal will get to work with the council to bring their design to life! Proposals should be submitted using the form on the back. Clubs/members can submit multiple proposals.

Design submission forms are due by September 16, 2024. Submission can be submitted by:

- Emailing Katrina Schneider, at <u>galienchanters@gmail.com</u>
- Dropping off or mailing to the Berrien County MSU
 Extension office at 1737 Hillandale Road, Benton
 Harbor, MI 49022.

If you have any questions or wish to learn more, please feel free to reach out to a Leaders Council Member.

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Centennial Forest Flower Bed Proposal Form

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18 USC 707	

Club / Member Name:	18 USC 707
Leader / Volunteer(s) Overseeing Project (name & contact information):	

Details:

- Dimensions: 4 feet by 4 feet
- Budget: \$150
- Proposal submission date: September 16th, 2024

Notes:

- This flowerbed is in full shade to part shade and doesn't have a watering system.
- There is about two feet between the soil and the bottom of the sign.
- Buchanan School Farm focuses on native plants and habitats.

Need additional images? Click here to view photos or use the QR Code.

Use the space below and/or additional pages, to describe/draw the proposal for what should be done with the flowerbed. Don't forget to give details about items that will need to be purchased, the benefits of your design, who's going to help bring the idea to life, etc.





STATE NEWS AND EVENTS



National 4-H Week: October 6-12

For more than 100 years, 4-H has inspired families, shaped careers, and impacted communities. From October 6-12, we will celebrate the impact of 4-H during National 4-H Week. The theme of this year's National 4-H Week is "Beyond Ready." This theme celebrates how 4-H is building a ready generation in a world of change, equipping youth with skills for the future while meeting them where they are today.

As you plan ahead for how you will mark National 4-H Week in your community, here are some ideas of how you can celebrate 4-H!

Wear Your 4-H Gear — Nothing says 4-H pride like a 4-H tee! Dress yourself (or the entire family – pets included!) in 4-H green and clover gear.

Shout-Out a 4-H'er — Recognize the hard work and dedication of 4-H'ers by shouting out one youth or an entire club on social media, in a local newspaper or other media.

Storefront Displays/Information Booths — In some communities, you can ask local businesses to display 4-H posters, flyers, showcase the work of 4-H'ers, or host a table to share information about your local 4-H program.

Become a 4-H Volunteer —If you are a 4-H alum, parent or recent 4-H 'graduate', you might be looking for ways to connect with 4-H. Consider giving your time to a local 4-H program by becoming a volunteer.



Share Your 4-H Story — Take to social media to share a 4-H memory, express how 4-H shaped who you are today, describe what 4-H means to you, post an old 4-H photo, or shout-out your 4-H club.

Have a 4-H Reunion — Gather your old 4-H friends and spend some time together reminiscing on your 4-H experience or recreate a 4-H project together!

Send a 4-H 'Thank You' — We all have a reason to thank our local 4-H staff, leaders and supporters. To show your appreciation, send a handwritten 'thank you' note to someone who has supported youth and made a difference.

Raise Awareness – On October 9, Michigan 4-H and MSU Extension will be hosting the second Michigan 4-H Day at the Capitol. Join this exciting education and awareness event to help elevate knowledge of Michigan 4-H and share the impact of its programming across Michigan. Learn more at www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-day-at-the-capitol.

Give Back — Local programs are always looking for resources to continue growing 4-H for the future. Help programs thrive by making a donation at mi4hfdtn.org/countymatch/ that can help support your county 4-H program.

Adapted from: <u>4-h.org/about/blog/</u> <u>10-ways-to-celebrate-national</u> <u>-4-h-week/</u>.











STATE NEWS AND EVENTS



4-H Financial Manuals for Volunteers and Treasurers updated in 2024!





The 4-H Financial Manual for Volunteers and the 4-H Financial Manual for Treasurers has been updated for 2024; it includes information about the Debit Card Policy and more. These tools will help guide 4-H members in developing financial management life skills.

The 4-H Financial Manual for Volunteers provides 4-H volunteers with information needed to address financial matters in any 4-H group, including assisting 4-H treasurers with handling the group's financial business (including required forms and reporting).

The 4-H Financial Manual for Treasurers was specifically created for 4-H treasurers (youth and adult) and contains additional information to guide their 4-H financial responsibilities.

Find these resources at:

www.canr.msu.edu/resources/fi
nancial manual for 4 h volun
teers and
www.canr.msu.edu/resources/fi
nancial manual for 4 h treas
urers.

September 4: Welcome Back MSU 4-H Alumni Reception

Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens, East Lansing

If you are a current or former 4-H'er attending MSU this fall, stop by the Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. for networking and free dinner! www.canr.msu.edu/events/msu-welcome-week-4-h-alumni-reception

September 18: 4-H Volunteers' Guide to Parliamentary Procedure Online

This session will cover the fundamentals of motions, voting and meeting protocols, providing you with the tools to support the youth in your group so they can lead with confidence and clarity. A session will be held from 12 to 1 p.m., and again from 7 to 8 p.m. www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-4-h-volunteers-guide-to-parliamentary-procedure

www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-4-h-volunteers-guide-to-parliamentary-procedure7pm-1

September 24: Online Extension Extras Parenting Hour – Exploring Parenting Styles

Online

This workshop will explore and reflect on parenting styles, how they have developed, the benefits and drawbacks of each kind of parenting style, and how to find a balance that best supports a strong family for you.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/online-parenting-exploring-parenting-styles-9-24-24

October 4: Michigan 4-H Foundation Annual Membership Meeting

Kellogg Center, East Lansing

Michigan 4-H Foundation members are invited to attend; members are individuals or organizations that donated \$25 or more to Michigan 4-H in the past year. Agenda items include: 2023 president's report, audited financial statement report, trustee elections, and recognition of major donors to Michigan 4-H within the past year.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-foundation-annual-membership-meeting

October 5: MSU Tollgate Pumpkinfest 2024

Tollgate Farm and Educational Center, Novi

Pumpkinfest is a family-friendly fundraising event for Tollgate. Enjoy a harvest celebration of wagon rides, u-pick pumpkin patch, cider, donuts, food, music and activities on the farm.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/pumpkinfest-2024







Berrien County MSU Extension 1737 Hillandale Road Benton Harbor, MI 49022





Facebook – "Berrien County 4-H Youth Development"
Instagram - @realberriencounty4-H

